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ALPHABET SOUP ART PROJECT

Objective: To make a mixed media picture of a place setting with alphabet soup. To create art using shape, line, and color to create balance, repetition, and emphasis. Project takes 3 classes to finish.

Essential Standards: K.V.3.2, 1.V.3.2., Execute control of a variety of media. K.CX.2.2. , 1.CX.2.2, Identify connections between art and other subjects such as language arts.

Focus: Show students a handout of Chinese Characters (letters) and compare them to our alphabet. Talk about how one character can mean a word in China but in the U.S.A., we spell most of our words with more than one letter. Ask them to raise their hand if they have ever had alphabet soup. Do you ever try to spell your name with the pasta?

Statement of Objectives: Today you will start a realistic picture of a place setting with alphabet soup. Show students a sample art project. You will begin with a circle shape for the soup bowl, a triangle for the napkin, and an oval with a long rectangle for the spoon. You could also ask students the names of the shapes in the sample.

Teacher Input: 1st Class, students are to draw or trace a large circle in the middle of their paper. Then, they are to draw a smaller circle inside the larger circle. Next, they will draw a triangle (napkin) on the right of the soup bowl. Last of all they will draw a spoon on the left side. They may decorate the napkin however they like, for example: flowers, smiley faces, shapes, or line patterns. Keep it simple. Tell them not to draw the alphabet shapes yet. They need to do a simple boarder with a ruler or freestyle. After they have made their basic picture they may outline it in sharpie.

2nd Class, Students are to color (crayons) the picture neatly—using good color choices, lighter colors work best. After everything is colored, students will begin making the alphabet with a sharp yellow crayon, using a lot of pressure for brightness. Letters can be upside down, sideways, or right side up. Encourage them to whisper the alphabet to themselves, so that they get all 26 letters in the soup bowl. The last step for the day is to paint orange watercolor paint over the inside of the small soup bowl. This makes a bright crayon resist . Most of the students should get this far.

3rd Class Students who have finished painting the soup are ready for the last step. Students can make an alphabet pattern around the boarder. They can make the pattern with shape (letters) and color (markers). For example, “ABCABCABC” Pink, Green, Orange, Pink, Green, Orange, Pink, Green, Orange, Pink, Green, Orange. Not all of the students will have time to do an alphabet pattern—some will just have time to color a border with crayons.

Technology/Art History Google images of cakes and pies by Wayne Thiebaud or similar type pictures.

Guided Practice: Help students with tracing circles, drawing a spoon, or coming up with a good pattern on the napkin. Remind them to write their name and class code on the back.

Independent Practice: Allow students to work as independently as possible. Encourage being imaginative and creative. Have students write about the Elements/Principals of art in their artwork as part of their evaluation.

Closure: What did you learn from this project? Who would like to share with the class the shapes in their picture? Who would like to share how they made good color choices? What did you emphasize in your artwork? How? What was your alphabet pattern in your boarder?

Good Job!

